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1962/10/22

-216
INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

199

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Action

SS

Info FROM: Caracas

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 497, October 22, 11 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/IR

Control: 16974

Rec'd: October 23, 1962
4:29 a.m.

NIACT

Internal Situation

REVIEWED BY *R Betancourt* DATE *26/10/62*
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In meeting with President Betancourt tonight (Embassy telegram 496) he told me internal security measures already being (#) petroleum labor leaders down to third category. "Fill up jails" was order given police in oil areas. Minister Interior taking precautionary steps throughout country, particularly Caracas, but GOV does not expect serious trouble.

Nevertheless GOV prepared close Central University although GOV does not believe this will be necessary.

Military leaders being convened by President tomorrow morning for consultations, as well as are AD, COPEI and CTV leaders in other meeting.

Measures being taken protect American property, particularly oil fields. Also order given protect as many US companies as possible with existing forces. Military reservists will be used if necessary to afford this protection. (Minister Interior to confirm these arrangements to me in morning).

If necessary preserve local situation President prepared call out armed forces.

This afternoon Embassy quietly alerted principal American companies and leaders. Embassy instituted maximum security

measures.

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MR. Carter Only
EO Clearance

4/6/52

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-2- 497, October 22, 11 p.m. from Caracas

measures. Chancery (as of 8 p.m.) under National Guard protection. Consulates alerted yesterday and again today.

STEWART

RB

(#) Omission. Correction to follow.

Note: Handled as ELITE per SS-O CWO-JRL.
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